

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### CARTEL INTRUSION INTO AMERICA

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, according to The Washington Times, last December, five Mexican nationals armed with at least two AK-47 rifles were infiltrating the rugged desert—the American desert, that is. That's right, Mr. Speaker. Cartel soldiers were reportedly on our side of the border in Arizona “patrolling in single-file formation” with the goal of “intentionally and forcibly assaulting” Border Patrol agents.

They spotted and opened fire on four U.S. Border Patrol agents. Agent Brian Terry was murdered. Two cartel assault weapons found at the scene were connected to Operation Fast and Furious. Mr. Speaker, you recall that's the operation where our government facilitated smuggling weapons to Mexican drug cartels—the enemies of Mexico and the United States.

Military-type intrusions by the cartels will only increase. We need to defend our sovereignty and protect our Border Patrol and first responders. It's time to send military equipment coming back from Iraq to secure the southern border from the cartel soldiers. This veteran equipment includes Humvees, night-vision equipment, and more UAVs. Incidents like this will only continue to occur until Washington elites realize what happens in Mexico doesn't stay in Mexico.

And that's just the way it is.

#### PAYROLL TAX CUT AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS EXTENSION

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, with our economy struggling and unemployment remaining unacceptably high, now is not the time to take more money out of the pockets of hardworking Americans.

The majority is opposing an extension of the payroll tax holiday, enacted earlier this year, that gave virtually all working Americans a much-needed tax cut. The payroll tax holiday cut the Social Security payroll taxes of over 160 million workers. Economic uncertainty both here in the U.S. and abroad makes this a dangerous time to eliminate an important tax cut that is

saving American families an average of \$1,000 a year. Failing to extend the payroll tax holiday will raise taxes on millions of Americans, taking over \$120 billion out of the pockets of consumers and out of the economy. In addition, failing to extend the unemployment insurance to those who have lost their jobs will take an additional \$30 billion out of the economy and rob over a million unemployed Americans of much-needed income and assistance.

Now is not the time to end these important tax cuts, and it is certainly not the time to pull the plug on the unemployed in our economy. I encourage my colleagues to pass both of these provisions as swiftly as possible.

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#### CROHN'S AND COLITIS AWARENESS WEEK

(Mr. CRENSHAW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, today is the first day of Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week. Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are diseases that collectively are known as inflammatory bowel disease. They are painful; they are incurable; they attack the digestive system; and they affect about one out of every 200 people in our country.

A few weeks ago, Congressman JACKSON and I formed the Crohn's and Colitis Caucus to raise awareness in the Congress and to fight for additional Federal support, and Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week is part of that effort. Today we will file a House Resolution which will support this awareness week. And hopefully, as we work with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, all Americans will use this week, this time to join in this fight to raise awareness to increase research and to find a cure for this debilitating disease.

#### CROHN'S AND COLITIS AWARENESS WEEK

(Mr. JACKSON of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a resolution my friend Congressman CRENSHAW and I introduced today supporting the goals and ideals of Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week, which begins today and runs through December 7, 2011.

This resolution, which is identical to the Senate version adopted earlier this month, declares congressional support for Awareness Week, recognizes the patients living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, and commends the dedication of health care professionals and biomedical researchers who care for these patients.

Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are chronic disorders of the gastrointestinal tract. Affecting an estimated 1.4 million Americans, including 140,000

children under the age of 18, IBD remains the most prominent factor in morbidity caused by digestive illness.

Again, thank you to my caucus co-chair for working with me on this important resolution, my colleagues who have joined as cosponsors, as well as the Crohn's and colitis patients and their families, medical providers, and researchers for their advocacy.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution and join the bipartisan Congressional Crohn's and Colitis Caucus, which advocates for enhanced patient care, treatment, and finding a cure for these debilitating diseases that impact both patients and their families.

#### OBAMA NEEDS TO FOCUS ON JOB CREATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for the past 2½ years, our Nation's unemployment rate has risen over 8 percent. The President continually develops policies that discourage and prohibit small businesses from creating jobs.

Just last month, the administration announced the delay of the Keystone XL pipeline, a project estimated to create over 300,000 jobs without costing taxpayers a dime. I was fortunate enough to visit Alberta, Canada in October and witnessed firsthand the Canadian oil sands and the positive impact that exploration has for new American jobs.

At the end of this legislative week, House Republicans will have passed 25 job-creation bills. Sadly, they are stalled in the Senate. With a growing debt of over \$15 trillion, it is absolutely necessary for Congress and the President to work together to promote job creation and ways to remove barriers to allow for small businesses to create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### RECOGNIZING POP WARNER LITTLE SCHOLARS

(Mr. MCINTYRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pop Warner Little Scholars program, our Nation's oldest and largest youth football, cheer and dance organization.

Currently, more than 400,000 children participate in Pop Warner organizations that span 43 States, Scotland, Germany, Russia, Japan, and Mexico. The NFL Players Association estimates that Pop Warner has been the career starting point for 70 percent of its current athletes.

It has a long history of promoting structured athletics and instilling the